

Jed 775

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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INFORMATION REPORT

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SECRET

COUNTRY	Poland	REPORT NO.	<input type="text"/>	25X1
SUBJECT	1. Prison for Deserters in Szczecin 2. Demonstrations in Bialystok, Lublin and Krakow	DATE DISTR.	24 December 1953	
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1. At the prison in Szczecin (Stettin) a special section has been arranged for deserters who have been caught trying to cross the border into Germany. The number has greatly increased and at present there are approximately 400 Polish military personnel of all ranks, the majority of which belong to the WOP (Military Border Guard). Soviet deserters are put into the same prison nearly every day; these are later transferred to the Soviet military prison at Swinoujscie (Swinemuende).
2. Civilians who have been sentenced for attempted illegal crossing of the border serve their sentences (as a rule, three to seven years of hard labor) in the prison at Nowogard (45 kilometers northeast of Szczecin).
3. As a consequence of Cardinal Wyszynski's arrest demonstrations took place on 18 October at Bialystok, Lublin and Krakow. The demonstrations resulted in encounters with the UB (Security Police) and the militia; these resulted in the death of six persons, the wounding of several others, and the arrest of about 100 persons.

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